

BRIDGE TEAM
Minutes of Meeting
Monday, April 14, 2008

Meeting Attendees

Al Avant
Dan Holderman, PE
Rick Nelson, PE
Ron Hancock, PE
Tom Drda, PE
Ellis Powell, PE

Donna Dancausse
Bill Goodwin, PE
Dave Henderson, PE
Cecil Jones, PE
Neil Lassiter, Jr., PE
G. R. Perfetti, PE

Mike Robinson, PE
Brian Hanks, PE
Njoroge Wainaina, PE
Jay Bennett, PE
Lacy Love, PE
Norma Smith

1. Status Reports on Bridge Team Work Groups

Sub Regional Tier Design Guidelines

Mr. Bennett mentioned that the guidelines were approved in March and signed by Mr. Rosser and Mr. Sullivan, FHWA. The next phase will be to begin training Highway Design and Division personnel. Training by region was suggested and will include: Division Bridge Managers, Bridge Maintenance Engineers, Division Construction Engineers, Area Roadway Engineers and Area Bridge Engineers. The feasibility of modifying projects currently being worked on will be discussed at the May 7, 2008, Structure Workshop.

This Initiative is basically complete; a documentation report is needed.

Reexamine Current TIP/Update Process of Estimating Project Cost

Mr. Goodwin noted that square foot costs to be used for estimating bridges on each of the tiers had been calculated (I. \$529, II. \$664, III. \$705) and employed. Mr. Avant noted that 2014 and 2015 projects were also identified. Mr. Holderman made a general comment that it was not a good idea to keep post year projects on the list.

This Initiative is basically complete; a documentation report is needed.

Update Bridge Preservation Program

Mr. Drda noted that an annual \$5 million allocation of Federal Funds for preservation was made. Also, "FHWA's NEPA Requirements for NCDOT's Bridge Preservation Program" (see attachment) has been completed and signed. Eligible activities, such as painting, joint replacement and deck washing, are described therein.

This Initiative is basically complete; a documentation report is needed.

Develop Overarching Program Goals

Mr. Perfetti noted that developing qualitative verbiage to complement the quantitative goals, as requested by the Highway Leadership Team, had not been finished. Mr. Love suggested that this should compliment the TMT's Dashboard efforts with regard to the Bridge Health Index. Mr. Perfetti will coordinate with Ken Pace and Victor Barbour.

2. Review TMT Bridge Workstreams and Update Bridge Team List of Initiatives

Mr. Powell reviewed the Bridge Program Workstreams Status (see attachment). An overlap between TMT's "Permit Requirements and Project Commitments" and BT's I-17 "Efficient Environmental Stewardship" was noted. After discussion it was decided that a Working Group be established to identify a list of issues to take to the next Interagency Meeting in May. Examples such as: Bridge vs. Culvert, Pile Jetting and Moratoriums were brought up.

Mr. Powell will schedule an initial meeting. Work Group membership was identified: Mike Robinson, Ron Hancock, Njoroge Wainaina, Chris Kreider, Dave Henderson, Andrew Nottingham, Rick Nelson, Mark Freeman, Joe Blair, Bill Goodwin, Elizabeth Lusk, DeWayne Sykes, Mason Herndon and Rob Ayers of FHWA.

An overlap between TMT's "Funding Options for Improving the Bridge Program" and BT's I-5 "Investigate Alternate Financing Sources" was also identified. This will be noted as "In Progress" on the BT's Initiative List.

3. Proposed Drainage Work Group

Mr. Hancock discussed his involvement in a group's efforts to resolve pipe installation and compaction issues. After discussing other issues that Mr. Varnedoe would like addressed, a Drainage Work Group was identified to look into allowing alternate materials, revising the current policy on fill height and construction guidelines. The Drainage Work Group membership will include: Ron Hancock, Rick Nelson, Cecil Jones, Dave Henderson, Doug Taylor, Jim Phillips, Chris Kreider, Scott Capps (or Jennifer Brandenburg) and Brian Hanks. This will be a new BT initiative, I-24; findings will be reported at the next BT meeting.

4. Evaluate Bridge Team Workload

Aside from the new work on the I-17 and I-24 initiatives previously mentioned, the BT agreed that it would not take on any new starts at this time. Workload will be reviewed at the next meeting. It was noted that initiative I-5 will be identified as "In Progress" with the understanding that the TMT is working on this.

5. Plan Agenda for Next Meeting (July 23, 10:00am – 12:00 noon)

Tentative agenda items were identified:

- Continue Work Group Updates and Update Initiatives
- Progress of Drainage Work Group
- How to Document and Archive Completed Initiative Efforts
- Preconstruction Bridge Training for Construction Personnel